

# NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Released: September 22, 2003  
For Week Ending: September 21, 2003  
ND-CW3803

Cooperating With:  
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY,  
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN) and  
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER  
INFORMATION CENTER

**General:** Scattered showers improved soil moisture supplies across most of the state last week, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. Potato producers welcomed the rain which provided better digging conditions. Light frost occurred in many areas of the state last week, however, no significant damage was reported. A statewide average of 4.9 days were suitable for fieldwork. Statewide topsoil moisture supplies as of September 21 increased 9 percentage points from the previous week in the adequate rating. Current topsoil moisture supplies were rated 19 percent very short, 38 short, 42 adequate and 1 surplus compared to 16 percent very short, 31 short, 47 adequate and 6 surplus last year.

**Crops:** Corn for grain harvest is just starting in some areas, ahead of last year and equal to the five-year (1998-2002) average. As of September 21, 2 percent of the corn crop had been harvested for grain compared to 0 percent last year and the average of 2 percent. Eighty-four percent of the corn for silage had been chopped, ahead of last year and the average. Soybean harvest continued last week with five percent of the soybean crop harvested compared to 10 percent for both last year and the average. Producers are ahead of average with the dry edible bean harvest at 60 percent complete compared to 40 percent last year and the average of 49 percent. Thirty-five percent of the potatoes have been dug compared to 34 percent last year and the average of 40 percent. Eight percent of the sugarbeets have been lifted compared to 1 percent last year and the average of 6 percent.

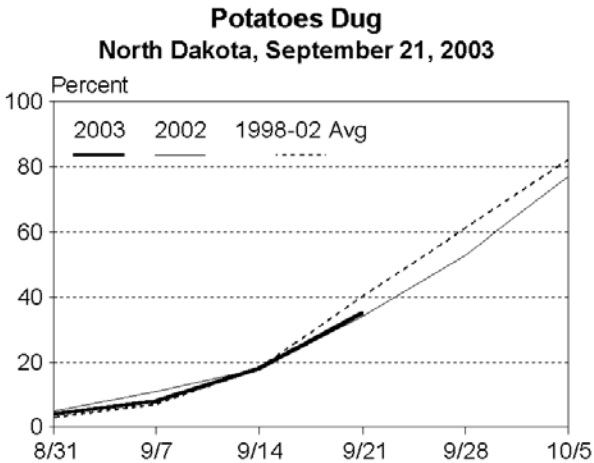
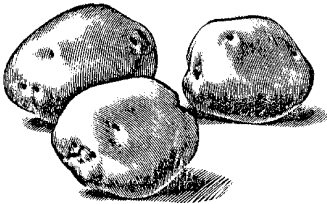
Thirty-five percent of the corn crop was rated in good to excellent condition, down from 39 percent the previous week and 59 percent last year. Thirty-eight percent of the soybean crop was rated in good to excellent condition, down from 40 percent the previous week and 58 percent last year. Fifty percent of the sunflower crop was rated good to excellent compared to 52 percent last year.

**Livestock:** Cattle producers were busy pregnancy checking breeding stock and weaning calves last week. Pasture and range conditions were rated 58 percent very poor to poor, unchanged from both last week and last year. Stockwater supplies were rated 20 percent very short, 33 short, 47 adequate and 0 surplus compared to 20 percent very short, 23 short, 55 adequate and 2 surplus last year.

Crop Development Progress <sup>1/</sup> September 21, 2003 with Comparisons				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	1998-02 Avg.
(Percent)				
CORN				
Mature	64	35	42	50
Harvested for Grain	2	1	0	2
CORN FOR SILAGE				
Chopped	84	72	53	49
DRY EDIBLE BEANS				
Cut and Beyond	76	61	67	67
Harvested	60	43	40	49
FLAXSEED				
Harvested	94	88	73	76
POTATOES				
Vines Killed	87	72	91	87
Dug	35	18	34	40
SOYBEANS				
Lower Leaves Yellowing	98	89	96	94
Mature Leaves Dropping	78	55	88	74
Harvested	5	2	10	10
SUGARBEETS				
Lifted	8	5	1	6
SUNFLOWER				
Bracts Turned Yellow	92	74	84	85
Bracts Turned Brown	50	21	37	48
Harvested	0	NA	0	1

<sup>1/</sup> Crop development percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage. NA= Not Available

Crop and Pasture Condition Week Ending September 21, 2003					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
(Percent)					
Corn, All	13	19	33	32	3
Soybeans	9	16	37	35	3
Sugarbeets	2	4	20	67	7
Sunflowers	4	13	33	43	7
Pasture and Range	23	35	29	13	0



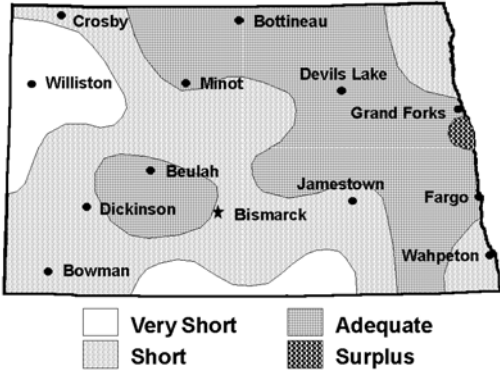
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Soil Moisture: North Dakota, September 21, 2003

Date	V. Short	Short	Adq.	Surplus
(Percent)				
TOPSOIL				
This Week	19	38	42	1
Last Week	24	43	33	0
Last Year	16	31	47	6
98-02 Avg	9	27	59	5
SUBSOIL				
This Week	30	41	29	0
Last Week	34	40	26	0
Last Year	18	29	48	5
98-02 Avg	10	25	60	5

Topsoil Moisture Supplies  
September 21, 2003



**Weather:** A blast of fall swept across the northern plains this past week leaving in its wake cooler temperatures, some rain, and even some frost on the ground. High temperatures for the week were pretty warm with most zones well into the 70s and even into the 80s for others. Once the cooler air moved in, the overnight lows really stood out with readings across the north central part of the state all the way down to 25 degrees and 30s for most everyone else. Grand Forks and Forest River received the most rain with 2.05 inches and 0.98 of an inch, respectively.

**Outlook, September 22-28:** The week will start off with warmer than average temperatures for Tuesday under partly cloudy skies. Warmer air will be the leading edge of a system working its way down from Canada that will once again usher in cooler temperatures for the last half of the week. Expect rain showers and mostly cloudy skies on Thursday. For Friday through Sunday expect mostly clear to partly cloudy skies, highs in the 50s and 60s and lows in the 30s.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations  
North Dakota, Week ending September 21, 2003

District Averages	Average Temperature		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning March 29		
	Past Week	Depart Normal <sup>1/</sup>	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal <sup>1/</sup>
(Degrees F)			(Inches)		
Northwest (1)	54	1	0.12	8.90	-3.03
N. Central (2)	53	0	0.18	9.49	-4.23
Northeast (3)	54	-1	0.93	11.37	-1.62
W. Central (4)	57	1	0.14	9.68	-3.05
Central (5)	54	-1	0.34	13.32	-0.10
E. Central (6)	57	1	0.58	12.36	-2.06
Southwest (7)	57	3	0.34	10.48	-1.70
S. Central (8)	56	0	0.36	10.55	-1.48
Southeast (9)	58	1	0.45	14.63	0.69

<sup>1/</sup> Normal is the 1961-90 average. NA = Not Available.  
Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND  
Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations  
North Dakota, Week ending September 21, 2003

Stations by District	Temperature Past Week		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning March 29		
	High	Low	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal <sup>1/</sup>
(Degrees F)			(Inches)		
(1) Bowbells	78	28	0.13	6.87	-5.05
Williston	78	35	0.04	7.90	-2.07
Mohall	78	28	0.30	10.93	-2.03
Minot	81	29	0.02	9.92	-2.98
(2) Baker	77	32	0.33	10.67	-4.61
Bottineau	79	25	0.10	8.09	-5.77
Towner	82	25	0.11	9.71	-2.32
(3) Cando	75	32	0.65	11.79	-0.75
Cavalier	72	35	0.63	10.87	-2.73
Forest River	75	35	0.98	10.90	-2.03
Grand Forks	73	37	2.05	13.49	0.42
Langdon	71	34	0.59	10.65	-2.22
St. Thomas	73	35	0.70	10.53	-2.40
(4) Hazen	84	28	0.19	10.94	-2.24
Turtle Lake	80	31	0.11	10.34	-2.87
Watford City	83	34	0.11	7.75	-4.03
(5) Carrington	77	31	0.42	14.50	1.14
Harvey	79	28	0.25	16.00	2.70
Jamestown	79	32	0.26	13.92	0.47
Robinson	79	29	0.37	10.92	-2.08
Streeter	79	31	0.42	11.24	-2.77
(6) Dazey	75	32	0.75	11.26	-3.58
Fargo	82	42	0.38	12.17	-1.65
Hillsboro	77	36	0.62	13.64	-0.96
(7) Beach	79	32	0.56	11.82	0.57
Bowman	81	32	0.15	8.60	-3.57
Dickinson	82	36	0.21	10.65	-1.83
Hettinger	81	36	0.44	10.83	-1.97
(8) Mandan	82	29	0.42	10.17	-1.37
Linton	81	32	0.30	10.93	-1.60
(9) Edgeley	80	33	0.36	14.37	0.36
Oakes	82	33	0.50	15.41	1.98
Wyndmere	83	36	0.49	14.12	-0.27

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